Scarlet Moonlight

by emilyijae.kim

Category: HakuÅ•ki/è–„æ¡œé¬¼
Genre: Romance, Supernatural
Language: English
Characters: Chizuru Y., Hijikata T., Kazama C., OC
Pairings: Chizuru Y./Hijikata T., OC/Kazama C.
Status: In-Progress
Published: 2014-12-29 07:53:34
Updated: 2015-05-18 12:52:25
Packaged: 2016-04-27 06:43:50
Rating: T
Chapters: 17
Words: 20,853
Publisher: www.fanfiction.net
Summary: Aye Yokota is with the Shinsengumi to help protect Chizuru Yukimuraâ€”a pureblood Oni. One day, Aye goes undercover as a geisha at Shimabara. Her mission is to kill Chikage Kazama, an attractive yet dangerous Oni. As Aye realizes the reason he kept her alive, and uncovers secrets, a scarlet love begins. Under the moonlight, will Aye Yokota choose love or duty? (Currently Ended)

1. Chapter 1

Aye started getting ready to leave to the red-light district.

"Are you really okay with this?" as she looked up, Harada-san was leaning against her door.

"Yes. All I've ever been was a burden to you and the Shinsengumi. This is the least I can do," Aye said as she packed her things and stood up. "Besides, this isn't just about me repaying your kindness. It's for Chizuru as well. For her safety,"

"Okay, I get that Chizuru part, but that's not true! You were a huge help to us. You helped us with the Ochimizu, you even helped us on our patrols." Harada exclaimed as he reached for Aye's head. He kept his hand on her head for a while.

"It's okay, Harada-san. Anyways, I can fight. I have my fans, dagger and katana," she said as she gestured to her sack, which carried her stuff, and her hips. "Say goodbye to everyone else for me, please. I really must leave now. Osen-chan and Chizuru are probably waiting for me."

Chizuru was a very precious person. She was one of the only pureblood Oni's in this world, and of course, Kazama Chikage. He was the reason Aye was leaving to Shimabara. Kazama would always be a danger to Chizuru, and Aye's duty was to protect her. She was to find out about

Kazama's weakness, and get rid of him if she could. And she would.

* * *

><p>His blood-red eyes glinted in the moonlight. As he glided towards Chizuru, he reached his hand out to touch her face. There soon was Aye standing between them, with her two fans catching his hand. He frowned, as the metal part of the fan had squeezed his hand hard. It would leave a bruise if he were a normal human. Except he wasn't. He was a pureblood Oni from the West.

"Don't you dare touch her," she said through clenched teeth. Kazama Chikage just stood there, and huffed. He was too furious to even laugh. It would be easier for him if he got rid of this fake Oni.

"You're one of themâ€¦" Kazama said, but before he could finish his sentence, Aye had one of her daggers at his neck. There was a line of blood that trickled down his neck. He was furious. He reached down for his katana, and pulled it out of its sheath.

The two of them were standing, waiting for one of them to attack. Aye attacked first. Now with her katana raised, she clashed it down at Kazama, but of course, he was faster. He blocked her attack, and brought his sword down on her side, and his katana hit her. She backed away, and she could feel the pain, throbbing. But she pushed it aside, and attacked once more. But he was an Oni, and she was a mere human. She could never win. She only had one choice. Aye changed to her Rasetsu form.

Her hair turned from copper to snow white, and her eyes crimson red. She could feel her body becoming lighter. This time, Kazama lunged for her, his katana rising like a snake. But she was different now. She was stronger. She dodged his attack, and cut his cheek. She could clearly see the rage in his burning eyes.

Then there was a gunshot. A jolt of pain came from Aye's leg, and her knees gave out. She slumped down on the ground, and Chizuru ran towards her.

"Are you alright?" Chizuru touched her side, and she grimaced in pain.

"What are you doing, Shiranui?" Kazama hissed at the man with a long ponytail.

"Amagiri sent me to bring you back to the Satsuma's headquarters. Man, he really is a lazy old guy." He said, eyes only half open. He looked relaxed, like Kazama. Was that a trait that all Oni's had?

_Aye couldn't let Kazama get away. Fighting the pain that was spreading, she quickly got her dagger out, and threw it towards Kazama. But he caught it with his fingers with ease. This enraged her. She growled at him, but she felt her human-self taking over her. When she turned back, her eyes felt droopy, and the injury hurt more than it had before. She grimaced, and touched the wound on her leg. The bullet was still in her thigh. She had to get it out. Fighting the pain, she got her dagger and dug it in her wound, and took the bullet out. Aye screamed in pain. Chizuru's grip on Aye tightened as

she screamed._

Kazama was staring at Aye, a hint of curiosity in his eyes. She glared at him, and although she wanted to kill him right at this moment, she didn't even have the energy to stand. She would save her strength for later, when she was stronger. She would protect Chizuru, because that was her duty. She would kill Kazama.

* * *

><p>Aye slowly walked towards the front gate of the Shinsengumi's headquarters. When she stepped out, she was greeted by Osen-chan and a worried Chizuru. Chizuru was dressed in her men's clothes, and as she walked towards Aye, tears started to well in her eyes. Aye pulled Chizuru into a tight hug.<p>

"Don't cry. This isn't the last time we'll see each other," Aye said, failing to leave out the sadness in her voice.

"Butâ€¦ You're leaving because of meâ€¦" Chizuru said, sniffing and wiping away her tears.

"Yes, Chizuru. Which is why I need you to be a strong girl, and _not_ cry," Aye said, as she press one of her seven daggers into the palms of Chizuru.

"But this is your dagger, don't you need it?" Chizuru said, holding her tears in.

"Chizuru, listen carefully. Right now, you are my top priority. And I need to go to Shimabara to help you be safe. I'll only be gone for a few days, a few weeks tops. If anyone, and I mean if _anyone_ tries to harm you, do not hesitate to use this dagger. Alright?" Aye asked, holding Chizuru's shoulders. "You are a powerful and valuable Oni. You never know what's going to happen to you."

Chizuru nodded eagerly. "Okay,"

"Good," with one last hug, Aye and Osen-chan were on their way to the red-light district.

2. Chapter 2

A/N: Hey guys, so I know my updates are really slow, like every Monday. I'm really sorry about that, and I'm thinking maybe I should change the updates to Mondays _and_ Thursdays. I mean, if you guys want me to. So please, send me a review/private message, and tell me what you think. Thanks, and there's a little something for my book Scarlet Moonlight. Go to my profile, and you'll find a link that has the caption 'Trailer'. You'll know when you see it. Watch it, and please rate it.

* * *

><p>Aye and Osen-chan arrived at Shimabara in roughly 10 minutes. Though it was a short walk, Aye was very tired. She hadn't gotten much sleep the night before, since she would be going undercover as a geisha.<p>

"Your room is just around the corner," Osen-chan said, as she directed Aye to the corner. "Kimigiku can show you around tomorrow. You must be tired,"

"Yes. Thank you Osen-chan," Aye said with a polite nod, and she entered the room. Unexpectedly, there was another girl in the room, her forest brown hair longish. She had a kimono that looked to be her nightgown on, and was laying out a second futon next to hers.

"Oh! Hello, you must be the new geisha I was informed about!" She rushed towards Aye and did a small bow, and Aye returned it. Her dark amber eyes look into Aye's gray ones. "My name is Kosuzu, and I am a geisha in training,"

"Hello Kosuzu, my name is Aye Yokota. It is a pleasure to meet you," she said. Kosuzu squealed in delight and held Aye's hand in hers.

"I can call you Aye, right? You can call me Kosuzu!" Too stunned by the overly bright girl, all Aye could do was nod. Kosuzu took hold of Aye's arm, and she dragged her towards the futon, taking Aye's belongings in the other hand. When the girl let go of Aye's arm, she put the sack next to the futon, and dragged Aye down onto the floor with her.

"So, tell me your story," Kosuzu said, the too bright girl now serious.

"What story?"

"Oh, you know. How you got to come here," and they spent the rest of the night talking, and getting to know each other better. After all, they _were_ going to be together for a while.

* * *

><p>The sound of the room's door sliding open woke Aye the next morning. She opened her eyes, only to be greeted by an unknown room. Then she remembered the night before. She was a geisha now, and she was staying in the same room as an overly excited and happy girl. Not that she disliked it, of course. But she didn't want to get too close to her, since she never knew what would happen.<p>

"Aye-sama," a voice made her sit up on her futon. She peered up from her still sleepy eyes, and saw a beautiful woman standing in front of her. She was so beautiful. "I am Kimigiku. I am sorry to wake you, but Senhime-sama told me to show you around," Kimigiku said.

"No, no it's fine. Thank you. But I would like to get dressed, if that is fine?" Aye asked, and Kimigiku nodded. She stepped out of the room, closing the door behind her. After Kimigiku left the room, Aye changed into her men's clothes, since she did not know what else to wear.

When Aye stepped out of the roomâ€”careful not to wake Kosuzuâ€”she realized Kimigiku's surprised expression. It was probably because of her men's clothing.

"My dear Aye-sama, I think we should first visit the my room," without knowing the reason why, Aye followed behind Kimigiku, as she strode gracefully towards her room.

When they arrived, Kimigiku slid open the door, and let herself in, and gestured for Aye to enter as well. She headed towards her wardrobe, and pulled out a beautiful green and white kimono. She smiled at Aye, and handed her the kimono. When she was handed the kimono, she fumbled, and murmured a slight apology. Kimigiku stared at Aye for a few seconds, then chuckled lightly.

"Could it be that you do not know how to put on a kimono?" she said with a smile. Aye was too embarrassed to say anything, and so she just simply nodded, and smiled apologetically.

"I have never worn one. I was basically brought up as a boy." Aye commented while Kimigiku started getting her beautified.

A few seconds later, Aye was standing in front of a mirror, or was she? Inside the mirror, there was a stunning lady. She had a green and white kimono, with purple designs on the neck. As she stood there, gaping at herself, Kimigiku couldn't stifle her giggle.

"Aye-sama, we really should get going. We have spent enough time on dressing up. Now I really must show you around." Kimigiku spoke while she led Aye towards the door of the room.

"Yes, we should."

* * *

><p>After the tour of the entire Shimabara, Aye's feet ached. They had walked around Shimabara twice, the first time of Kimigiku explaining, and second time of watching and observing. Then Kimigiku had dropped her off at her room, where Kosuzu was trying to get her hair up into a bun.<p>

"Hey, Aye-chan, could you please help me? We have very important guests coming to Shimabara today, and I want to look my best." Kosuzu said, furrowing her brows.

"Who's coming?" Aye asked, a little confused. She looked into Kosuzu's amber eyes, and saw something that looked like excitement and nervousness.

"Iâ€¦ It'sâ€¦ Uhâ€¦" Kosuzu stuttered. "It's this guyâ€¦ His name is Ryunosuke Ibuki, andâ€¦" Kosuzu said. And although she didn't finish her sentence yet, Aye could guess what was going on.

"Okay. I get it. Let me help you." Though Aye didn't really know much about hair, she did know one hairstyle that would look great on Kosuzu. So she put her hair up in a traditional bun.

After putting all sorts of ornaments on Kosuzu's hair, Aye let her stare at herself in the mirror.

"Wow, I thought you said you didn't know much!" Kosuzu exclaimed. With a shrug, Aye patted Kosuzu on the back. "Thanks so much," she said and hugged Aye.

"No problem. This is probably the least I can do. I'll cheer on you from here," Aye said, as she pushed Kosuzu towards the door. "You

should hurry and go."

"What do you mean, Aye-chan? Aren't you supposed to come with me? I heard that we were going to go together."

"What? But I've never done this before. Shouldn't I get some training first?" Aye said with her arms in the air.

"This _is_ your training, Aye-chan!" Kosuzu cried out. "Let's get you ready!"

* * *

><p>Aye was dressed up in a white and red kimono. Her face was painted white, and her eyes a light shade of pink. Her copper hair was done in a traditional up do. This felt very weird for her, since she'd never had so much makeup on before. Inside her clothing were her weapons. Her two fans on her hips, and her daggers on her arms.<p>

"Aye-chan, you look great!" Kosuzu said. Though compared to Kosuzu, she was nothing.

"Thanks. But I really have no idea what to do when I get out there,"

"Don't worry, you probably just have to pour some sake, and answer questions if they ask," Kosuzu said.

She made it sound so easy.

Kosuzu and Aye slide open the door of a room, and bowed in front of a group of men. As Aye raised her head and stood up, she felt a weird source of energy flowing in the room.

'Maybe I'm just tiredâ€¦'

But as she walked towards the man who she was assigned to, her heart fell. His crimson eyes looked at her, no, _through_ her, as if she were just a part of the air.

There he was, the reason she was here.

Kazama Chikage.

3. Chapter 3

A/N: Hello! So I am back with Chapter 3 of Scarlet Moonlight! And I know that some chapters can be really short, so if they are, I'm planning to post more. Like, my Chapter 2 was really short, so I'm adding Chapter 3 on Thursday. So if I think this chapter is short, I will update another one on Monday. Yes, yes. It is a confusing way to update stories, but I have a writer's block... So... I think I need more time. I am currently working on Chapter 6 of the story, and it is definitely going to be... Intense? Ahahaha. And some of my chapters do have gruesome scenes, like, somebody's head falls to the ground, etc. In this chapter, you will find out more about Aye's past, and how different she was... Hehehehe

Happy Reading!

* * *

><p>Aye was now sitting next to Kazama Chikage, pouring sake into his cup over and over again. He never knew when to stop. The men in the room kept talking about the Shinsengumi, and how stupid they were. It was a concerning topic to Aye, but she was too busy trying to act neutral, and ignore the fact that she was sitting next to an Oni. An Oni who could probably sense that she was in fact, not human.<p>

There was a splitting headache in the center of Aye's head, and she didn't know why. Was it because she was nervous? But she was snapped back out of her thoughts when she heard a clashing sound followed by screams. Her head snapped up, and realized that it was the man who was with Kosuzu raising a ruckus.

"Serizawa-sensei, pleaseâ€”" One of the men was cut off by a booming voice.

"Shut up!" He shouted. Then his gaze lowered to a sitting Kosuzu. "How dare you! You dare to defy me?" As he raised a hand to hit Kosuzu, she closed her eyes, but the impact did not come. Aye stood from her seat, and strode towards the man and Kosuzu, but a boy about her age was there, and he held the big man's strong arms. Kosuzu slowly peeled her eyes open, and saw the boy.

"Ibuki-han!" she shouted, surprised to see the boy blocking the man. But he was not standing for long. Before he could do anything, the man sent the boy flying across the room. There was a loud bang, and Kosuzu got up and started running towards the boy, but she was stopped when the man caught her by her hair. Then, there was a low growl. He had a dagger stuck in his arm. Aye had thrown it when he caught Kosuzu. She ran to the girl, and asked if she was fine. Kosuzu seemed to be fine, just a little shaken up.

"Kosuzu, why don't you check up on him?" she said, pointing to the boy. Kosuzu nodded and scrambled towards the boy. Aye stood, and faced the man. She could see the rage and anger burning in his eyes. But she didn't see the hand coming towards her face, and dodged a little too late. The man backhanded Aye, but she didn't move an inch. She just stood there, and spit the blood out that was forming inside her mouth.

Then she saw him. His scarlet eyes were staring at her, watching her every move. Something started pounding in her head, and she gasped and clasped her hands around them. She felt something that felt so foreign, yet familiar.

Blood.

She wanted blood. No. She _needed_ it.

Many of the people were already out of the room, but there still were some geisha and men in the room. She couldn't let them see her as a Rasetsu. It was a secret she had to keep for herself, and the Shinsengumi.

"Get out!" Aye shouted, and this startled the big man. "All of you!

OUT!" The people left in the room clambered to their feet, and ran out of the room, not wanting to take any part in this commotion. Only Serizawa and Kazama remained in the room. She scanned the room for other people, and let herself go.

Her hair turned white, and her eyes from gray to carmine red. She couldn't control her bloodlust.

She needed to kill.

She needed blood.

Aye's gaze drifted towards Serizawa as her headache faded away. She grabbed her two fans from her either side of her hip, and attacked him. The metal side of the fans hit Serizawa's arm, as he tried to unsheathe his katana. When he got it out, he sliced it across Aye's chest, and because she was not in her right mind, it hit her. The blood from her chest fell to the ground, one drop at a time. She was too busy staring at the blood, that she didn't notice Serizawa as he kicked her stomach and made her tumble to the ground. She groaned in pain as her vision blurred.

Suddenly, Serizawa was above her, raising his katana for the final blow. Aye spotted an ornament that had fell out of her hair, and she grabbed it and stabbed in into Serizawa's leg. He screamed in agony, as he crumbled to the ground. Aye felt her body becoming heavy, fighting to hold onto her consciousness. But as if someone was telling her to let go, her eyes were slowly closing.

And the darkness consumed her.

* * *

><p>A girl with copper hair and gray eyes stood in front of the Shinsengumi's headquarters. She was standing there, holding a sack close to her body. Her body was covered in blood, some of hers, but most of someone else's. Dry tears covered her face, and specks of red masked her face. A man at the gate walked towards her, unsure if she was the one who caused all the blood or not.

"Are you looking for someone?" the man asked, keeping his distance.

"Iâ€¦ I was runningâ€¦ And I ended up hereâ€¦" she said, her eyes devoid of any emotion. Her gray eyes had no focus, and remained hazy. Without knowing what to do, the man walked inside the gate, and left the girl standing there, dazed.

Then there were feet shuffling, and the girl looked up from the ground to see a boy who looked too much like a girl. He was followed by a group of men wearing blue haori's. Then, from inside the compound, the man who was standing outside before came rushing out with a man with shoulder-length dark hair and round glasses.

"Is this the girl you were talking about?" The man said. His voice was very soft, yet there was something that didn't seem so gentle.

_"Yes, Sannan-san. She appears to be lost," the man said, searching for any sign of emotion on the man's face. The man with dark hair

observed her for a while, and then told her to follow him. Too weakened to say anything, she just followed him into the compound. The girl was lead to a room, and the people who were outside had come in as well. Inside the room, there were 8 other men, sitting on the tatami floor._

The man with glasses gestured for her to sit, and she did. She knelt on the floor, and found her eyes too heavy.

"What is your name, and how did you get here?" A man with long black hair said, his purple eyes glazing with distrust.

"Iâ€¦ My name is Aye Yokota. I wasâ€¦ runningâ€¦ and I ended up hereâ€¦" She said, stumbling over her words. "My parents wereâ€¦ killed by rogue samurais. There was fire. I didn't know where I was goingâ€¦" The girl said, tears welling in her eyes.

"It's alright, it's not your fault. You have nowhere to go, right? You can stay with us. Isn't that right, Hijikata-san?" The boy who Aye had seen outside of the compound said. He flashed a convincing look at the man with purple eyes. The man next to him nodded. His eyes were intense for a moment, but softened as he answered.

_"Alright, alright! But you're responsible for her," he exclaimed. The boy beamed at the man, and took the girl'_s _hand. He led her to a room, and took the sack from her. He set it down, and let Aye sit down on the floor._

"I'm Yukimura Chizuru. Just call me Chizuru!" The boy said, smiling at Aye.

"Chiâ€¦ zuru," Aye said. Chizuru giggled, blushing a little.

"Iâ€¦ I'm actually a girlâ€¦" Chizuru said, looking down at her hands. "Anyways, we should first take care of you and your injury." Eyeing the injury on Aye's arm, she peeled her kimono off. Chizuru stifled a gasp as Aye revealed the wound. It was red with blood, and the cut was very deep. Chizuru quickly grabbed some water and a cloth from outside, and cleaned her cut.

"You said your name wasâ€¦ Aye, right?"

"Yes," Aye answered, feeling a little better after cleaning the wound.

"Well, I'm going to need help with all the chores. Would you mind helping me from now on?" Chizuru asked with a polite smile.

"Of course. That's the least I can do for you."

* * *

><p>Everything was a blur. Aye was sure she was lying down on a futon, and it was in the evening. But she had no idea where she was. When she tried to get up into a sitting position, her whole body ached. But she couldn't just stay here.<p>

Then something flashed in her mind. A memory of last night at

Shimabara. She had lost control, and there was a fight between her and a big man. She had stabbed him in the thigh, but she didn't remember anything else from there on.

Aye couldn't stay wherever she was for long, since she had things to do at Shimabara. So she pushed all the fatigue and pain away, and sat. She felt something hard at her hips, and realized her weapons were still on her.

Not having any idea where she was, Aye got up and balanced herself. Or at least tried to. She soon fell back down onto the futon. Her lungs were burning, and she couldn't breathe. Aye took long deep breaths, slowly, and regained her strength to stand. Then there was a scoff from the other side of the room. How had she not noticed him?

Kazama Chikage was sitting on the floor, sneering at Aye.

"I see, you have finally gotten up."

4. Chapter 4

A/N: Hey guys, so this chapter is quite long (compared to the others) so I won't be updating a story on Thursday. Sorry! And I also kind feel bad that I'm making Aye go through all these horrible things... But I really like it when my female characters are really strong. :) Anyways, So I know that my story may not be the best, but I am trying with all my strength to make it a fun story to read. If you guys have anything to ask, anything to suggest, please, PLEASE tell me. Thank you so much!

Happy Reading!

* * *

><p>Aye hated being so vulnerable and weak against Kazama Chikage. He was towering over her, despite her standing. She quickly reached for her dagger on her arm, but was stopped by a surprisingly warm hand.<p>

"I'm not going to hurt you, _fake_," he hissed, emphasizing the last part.

"Whyâ€¦" Aye said, somewhat frustrated and confused at the same time.

"You are merely aâ€¦ matter of my interest."

"A matter?" She whispered, baffled by his response. Too tired to speak while standing, she let herself drop to the ground. Although she was sitting, she didn't let her guard down. She lightly placed one hand on her hip, and felt for her fan.

"Where am I?" Aye asked, disliking how he was looking down at her. But she was too tired to do anything.

"You are somewhere safe. There is no need to be alarmed," Kazama said, his crimson gaze lingering on her. His next move surprised her. As if tired of looking down at her, he sighed and sat down in front

of her. She gave him a sickened glance, but he just ignored it.

They just sat there, a little awkward, in the silence. Then Aye got a shattering headache, just like the one she got last night at Shimabara. Aye stood, wanting to get some fresh air, but her knees buckled under her, and she fell. But before she hit the floor, an arm caught her. There was a piercing scream in the room, and it took a while before she realized it was hers. She held her head with the palm of her hands, and closed her eyes.

Then, everything turned red.

* * *

><p>Everything was a blur of red and black. There was a figure, one that was pinning her down by her shoulders. She shouted, but all the came out was an animalistic growl. Then the face of the mystery person cleared.<p>

It was Kazama Chikage.

He was here to take Chizuru. Aye had to kill him. She had to make him bleed.

But before she could reach for her dagger, the fog in her vision cleared, and found herself panting. Her hair stuck to her face because of the sweat.

"Whaâ€¦ What happened?" Aye said, still out of breath.

"You lost control of your Rasetsu side." Kazama said, a hint of annoyance in his voice. His blonde hair was disheveled, and there was blood on his hand. Then the pain came all at once. Her chest started burning, and when she touched her wound, there was blood. Too much blood. Her vision was intruded by specks of white, and and she struggled to keep her eyes open. She slumped onto the futon, not caring if the blood stained it. She was too tired.

"You are injured, human," Kazama's resonant voice said.

"Yeahâ€¦" Aye said, before drifting back to her memories.

* * *

><p>It has been almost a year since Aye first arrived at the care of the Shinsengumi. They had been kind enough to let her stay, and live. A year ago, she had no hope of living, or even meeting these kind people. Saito-san had even been kind enough to teach her the history of the katana. Okita-san had been teaching her about how to wield a katana. Chizuru and Aye would always be together, either working, or chatting.

One day, Aye was called to a meeting. It had been days since Kazama Chikage had visited the Shinsengumi and threatened them. He almost took Chizuru, and if it wasn't for Hijikata-san, Chizuru would be long gone by now. Because of this incident, everyone was on the edge, trying to find a way to keep Chizuru safe.

Aye arrived at the meeting room, and she knocked and let herself in. Everyone was inside already, except for Chizuru.

"You called for me, Kondou-san?"

"Ah, yes, Aye. We were discussing on a way to keep Chizuru safe from the Oni. I called you because you know her best, and maybe you had a suggestion." Kondou-san answered, missing his usual smile. "We currently came up with the idea that someone be with her at all times. Someone who could protect her."

"Butâ€¦ Wouldn't Chizuru not want anyone looking over her? She would say she feels too much like a burden," Aye commented. This earned her a downed look from everyone else in the room. "But it is a great idea."

"So, back to where we were," Sannan-san said, glancing at everyone. "Who wanted to volunteer for this 'job'?" Heisuke, Hijikata-san, and Yamazaki-kun raised their hands. Not many people wanted this job.

"Umâ€¦ If it's alright, could I take the job, please?" Everyone turned to look at Aye. "I may not be as skilled as any of you, but I do know the basics. I also know Chizuru well, and she might feel a little more comfortable with meâ€¦" She said, scanning everyone's faces.

"That could be an idea, if you could train a bit more. Isn't that right, Kondou-san?" Sannan-san said, directing his gaze at Kondou-san.

"Hmmâ€¦ It would be. Aye-san, are you sure about this? It is a dangerous job."

"Yes. Besides, everyone can think of it as me repaying by dept. This is the least I can do for the Shinsengumi and Chizuru. I may need a couple more weeks of training, but I can do this."

* * *

><p>As the days passed by, Aye started training harder and harder with Okita-san, Saito-san, Harada-san, and Heisuke. Her skill in handling the katana improved day by day, and she learned how to use short daggers as well. She also started training with the fans that had been a present from Harada-san. It was custom made for battle. It was plain, yet had its own beauty. Its sides were made of metal, and there was a slide, which contained a blade. When slid, the blade would come out from the top, and could be used as a sharp edged weapon. Nobody taught her how to use the fan. Aye found her own way of using her own unique kind of weapon.

After a week had passed, Aye's fighting skills had improved so much she could beat most of the Shinsengumi members. And thanks to her personality to never give up, she always got injured, even during practice.

The Shinsengumi were going out on a patrol, and Aye had to go with them, since Chizuru was going as well. But Chizuru went running into an alley, and she picked up something.

_"It's an Ochimizu vial," Chizuru said, holding the vial up. The contents of the vial were gone. It would be suicidal to stay here,

since the Ratsetsu could appear any moment._

"Chizuru, I think we shouldâ€”" Aye was cut short by a group of laughter. They weren't normal laughs, but mixed with shrieks. From the dark part of the alley, the Rasetsu appeared, and they unsheathed their katanas. Aye did the same, she pulled her sword out.

"Areâ€¦ Are thoseâ€¦" Chizuru didn't need to finish her sentence. As Chizuru backed away, she stumbled and fell.

This was bad. If Chizuru stayed here with Aye, then she would definitely get hurt. So she yelled at Chizuru to get the hell out of there.

"Chizuru, you need to get out of here. Get the others. NOW!" Aye said, and Chizuru scrambled to her feet, and ran off out of the alley. The Rasetsu were still cackling and shrieking, the sound deafening to Aye. As Aye neared them, she noticed they had shreds of what was left of a blue haori on. Wanting to finish this business quickly, she lunged at the Rasetsu, but they dodged easily. As she kept attacking, she finally killed two of them, but realized that they had formed a circle around her, so that she couldn't escape.

Each one she killed was replaced by another, and it never seemed to end. Running out of her burst of adrenaline, she let her guard down, and a Rasetsu came and stabbed her shoulder. She hissed in pain as blood started to drip down onto the floor.

"BLOOD!" The Rasetsu screeched, and they all lunged for her. Throwing her daggers at a few of them, she attacked the nearest Rasetsu. It howled in pain, but it still had a smile on its face. After taking down twelve more of them, her vision started blurring, and there was a buzzing noise in her ear.

Taking this time as an advantage, the Ratsetsu drove their katanas into Aye. She could feel it as one of them took their swords out from her abdomen, and one from her chest. Losing grip on any strength she had left, she crumbled to the ground.

The group of Rasetsu peered down at her with their blood-red eyes. They started stabbing her chest over and over again, but she didn't feel a thing as her eyes started to close.

A splatter of blood on her face let her eyes back open, and she saw the Shinsengumi killing the Rasetsu. Chizuru was above Aye, tears welling in her eyes, and as Aye reached for her hand, she squeezed it one last time and let her eyes close.

* * *

><p>The light was unbearably bright when Aye opened her eyes. Her body was sore, and she couldn't get up when she wanted to. She just lay there, staring outside. Then there was a foot in front of the door. Aye looked up to see Harada-san, wearing a shocked expression. Since Aye couldn't do anything, she smiled at him.

"Aye!" Cried Harada-san, sitting on the ground next to Aye.

_"What happened? My whole body feels like hell," spoke Aye, her lungs

burning from the effort._

"The Rasetsu you were fighting with, they attacked you." Harada-san smiled. "You were out for almost a month."

"A month?" Aye said, trying to sit up. But when her body kept telling her to give up, she sunk onto the futon.

"Yeah. Your injury is real bad." Harada-san stated. He let Aye lie back down, and he smiled a bit sadly. "The thing isâ€¦ The doctor says you won't be able to heal. There is no way you can survive this injury, unlessâ€¦" He stopped mid-sentence.

"Unless?" Asked Aye, gesturing him to continue.

"You drink the Ochimizu." He said, cringing at the word. Aye was in shock. She didn't want to become one of those monsters. She would never take the Ochimizu.

Never.

* * *

><p>When Aye felt better and could walk with someone's help, she was called to the meeting room of the Shinsengumi. The captains were there, discussing something with a serious mask on. Then Kondou-san noticed Aye coming into the room, and smiled at her, although it was not a happy one.

"Ah, Aye-san, how are you feeling?"

"To be honest, not good. But I guess I feel better than before." Aye said, smiling with effort. "So, why did you call me here, Kondou-san?"

"Thatâ€¦ That is becauseâ€¦ You see, while you were asleep, Chizuruâ€¦ She was kidnapped."

"By Kazama Chikage?" Asked Aye, frowning.

"Yesâ€¦"

Aye was furious. Partly at the Shinsengumi, but more at herself. She clenched her hands into a fist, and then winced at the pain.

"How long has it been?"

"About a week," Hijikata-san said with a stern expression.

The Shinsengumi were discussing a way to get Chizuru back, and they had tried, but only got dead or injured soldiers in return. Aye's head was spinning, thinking. She kept thinking, and only got one solution.

"I'll take it." Said Aye, and everyone in the room gave her a confused expression.

"Take what?" Asked Heisuke.

"The Ochimizu."

* * *

><p>Aye jerked awake as the nightmare died away. She was breathing in short breaths, and her whole body was slick with sweat. She looked around her, her surrounding somewhat recognizable, but strange. Where was this place?<p>

The door of the room slid open, and a man with blonde hair stepped into the room.

"Have you had enough sleep now?" Said Kazama Chikage, smirking.

"Whaâ€”" Said Aye, but stopped as she remembered what had happened. She had lost her mind, and blacked out. Hadn't she blacked out twice already?

Aye sat up, and grimaced as the pain in her chest grew. She looked down, and saw that her chest was patched up unlike before she was conscious. She felt hot, thinking about who could've bandaged her. He would have had to undress herâ€¦ She shook her head, earning a startled gaze from Kazama.

"So, how long have I been out?"

"Seven nights,"

"A week?!" Shouted Aye, with her hands in the air. Ignoring her chest that was screaming at her to get back down, she got up, and looked up at Kazama.

"Thank you, but I have to go. I've rested for way too long." She grabbed her katana and her outer clothes from the side of the futon. Kazama Chikage didn't even try to stop her.

But she wasn't going to just leave. She had the upper hand here. She could use the element of surprise. She would leave with Kazma Chikage's head. As she walked to the door, she felt Kazama behind her, not far but not close. Aye put her hand on her katana, and unsheathed it so quickly that Kazama didn't have time to even flinch. But he was still wearing that confident and smug look on his face.

"I am not going to fight against an injured person," He smiled, his red eyes staring right through her.

"Oh, now you include me in the category of 'people'?" Aye said, holding her katana as hard as she could, trying not to show her shaking body.

"You can either leave now, or die here." Kazama said, the humor in his eyes fading.

"I would rather die trying, than run away like a coward."

"If that is your choice," said Kazama, unsheathing his katana. Without waiting another moment, Aye charged at him.

The world turned white.

5. Chapter 5

A/N: Alright! So I am back with Chapter 5 of Scarlet Moonlight! I know that I am very selfish to upload this chapter this late... (I'M SO SORRY) Please forgive me! Anyways, this chapter is quite long (in my opinion) so you guys will have to wait until next week. And I am so, very sorry, but I might not be able to upload next week/week after that. I don't know which week, and it's not certain that I won't, so please don't hate me. (I have a writer's block...) And please check out my blog (in my profile!) for the character profile. But you may have to check it out tomorrow, because I'm still working on it!

Happy reading!

* * *

><p>Aye woke up, feeling as stiff as a rock. When she opened her eyes, she realized she was at her room at Shimabara. She looked beside her, and saw Kosuzu sleeping soundly. A jolt of pain shot through Aye's head, and it triggered something in her mind. She suddenly remembered the moment right before sheâ€¦<p>

Wasn't she fighting against Kazama? What had happened? There were so many questions in her head. She got up and went outside.

It was dark, but the pale moonlight made everything visible.

"Aye-chan! What are you doing out here?" Aye looked behind, and saw Kosuzu come out from the room.

"Hey, I just needed to get some fresh air," said Aye, gesturing for Kosuzu to stand beside her.

"Are you alright? You were gone for almost two weeks! Everyone is freaking out," Kosuzu said, searching Aye for any signs of injuries. Then she saw her chest and gasped. Aye looked down, and saw that the bandage was covered in red. Why wasn't this wound healing? It was healing so slowly, even for a human.

"Ohâ€¦ Uhâ€¦ I wasâ€¦ Taken by a doctor?" Said Aye, her statement ending up like a question.

"A doctor?"

"Yeah. There was a doctor in the room that night, and I was injured. So he took me to this place, and gave me all sorts of medicineâ€¦"

"Butâ€¦ Why is your wound still there? And it looks bad." Said Kosuzu, sounding a little confused.

"Kosuzu, wounds don't heal right away. It's going to take some time. Don't worry, I'm perfectly fine," Aye laughed, but made a huge mistake by patting her own chest. She grimaced, and suddenly felt too tired and cold to stay outside. "How about we go back inside?"

* * *

><p>"Kazama, why didn't you just kill her then? Are you growing soft or something? Want me to do it for you?" Shiranui was rambling nonsense.<p>

"Shut up," hissed Kazama. "It is none of your business."

"Fine, fine." And with that, Shiranui exited the room.

But he was right. Was Kazama growing soft? Why hadn't he finished her off? She was just an obstacle that was getting in the way. If he got rid of her, everything would be much easier.

But he just couldn't bring himself to hate her.

* * *

><p>"Here you go, Aye-san. But are you sure about this?" Asked Sannan-san. Him and Aye were currently in his room, sitting on the floor. He handed her the Ochimizu, not sure if it was the right thing to do.

"Yes, Sannan-san. I have to do this. It's for Chizuru. If I don't do something now, I may be too late, and we never know what might happen to her." Aye gulped, feeling like there was a giant rock in her throat.

"I have modified it, and it won't have any side effects. But you will have to drink blood at some point." Said Sannan-san. Aye nodded, and pulled the cap off from the vial, and hesitated for a second before bringing it to her lips. She tilted her head back, and as the liquid slid inside mouth, she swallowed. There was a burning sensation in her throat, but she ignored it and took in all of the Ochimizu.

When she finished the whole thing, she put the empty vial down onto the tatami floor. She somehow feltâ€¦ Different. Lighter. Active. More like her real self. She closed her eyes, and forced herself to calm down.

"How do you feel, Aye-san?" Sannan-san asked, he maintained his calm expression, but there was a hint of concern in his eyes.

"I feelâ€¦" Aye slowly opened her eyes, and her hair turned white as snow, and eyes red as blood.

"Good."

* * *

><p>The sun was bright, as it slid in the room. Aye got up, her chest aching, and dressed into a simple kimono. She realized that Kosuzu was deep in her dreams, still tired from last nights talk. Aye slid the door open, and stepped out. She closed the door as quietly as she could, and walked towards the kitchen to get some breakfast.<p>

When she arrived there, she was greeted by Kimigiku. She frowned, and looked at Aye.

"Aye-sama, if you don't mind, would you do us a favor?"

"Sure? What is it?"

"We ran out of sake, and we soon have to get to work. If you don't mindâ€¦ Please?"

"Yeah, okay sure." Aye said, walking out of the kitchen, and out of Shimabara.

There were so many people, Aye couldn't get to the sake shop that was only a few shops away. But thanks to her height, she could see well enough to squeeze through people, although her chest was screeching at her to stop and go back to Shimabara and rest.

"Oof. Sorryâ€”" Aye said as she bumped into a big man. But she was stopped when she looking up and found Harada-san peering down at her.

"Aye?"

"Harada-san!" Shouted Aye, glad to see the familiar face. She looked behind him, and saw few of the Shinsengumi members. They were all wearing their blue haoris.

"What are you doing here? And did you hurt yourself or something?" Harada-san said, gesturing at her chest.

"Oh thisâ€¦ It's a long story."

"Is it? Then why don't I treat you with some dango?"

"I don't have much time, but I won't say no."

After explaining the whole story of her fight against the man, and how she got injured, she said her goodbye to Harada-san, she started heading back to the sake shop. There were less people than before, so it was easier to get to the shop.

When she arrived at the shop and stepped in, she found herself talking to a very greedy looking man. His eyes scanned her, up and down, and this made her feel uncomfortable and irritated.

"Here you go," the man said, handing Aye the bottle of sake. But as if he did it on purpose, he kept his hold on it, and waited for Aye to reach her hand out. Their hands touched, but Aye just ignored it, and nodded politely.

"Thank you." Said Aye, and she turned around, but found herself stopped by a few men standing in her way. "Excuse me," she said, but they just stood there, smirking. Two of the men grabbed Aye's arms, but she quickly kicked them in the shins. They let go, but another pair of men were beside her.

"I'm afraid you're going to have to come with us, girl." They said, grabbing her arm. She twisted and tried to free herself, but her chest hurt like hell. They dragged her towards the back of the shop, but she somehow managed to get out, and she ran out of the shop. She heard one of them yelling at them to get her. She pushed out any thoughts in her mind, and ran.

Aye was running, straight and didn't look back even once. But then she was pulled by a hand that grabbed her arm and covered her mouth. She unknowingly screamed into the hand, and she felt herself hit something hard and warm. She elbowed the person's abdomen, but they didn't budge.

The men who were chasing her ran past the alley that she was in, and when their voices and pounding footsteps disappeared, she was finally let go. She gasped and sucked in a breath, and looked behind her to see red eyes. They were glowing in the dark alley.

"Kazama? What are you doing?" Asked Aye, her hand flying towards her fans. She pulled them out of her kimono, and she got into an attack stance.

"I thought I had made myself clear, _fake_. I don't fight against injured people," he hissed. Aye flinched at the word 'fake', as Kazama emphasized it so clearly. His smirk was gone, and now there was a hint ofâ€¦ What was that? Concern? It was dark in the alley, so she decided she was making things up.

"Okay," she said, stuffing her fans back into her kimono. "Why did you help me back there?"

"I didn't _help_ you. I only did my job."

"Your job?"

"Yes. Iâ€”" But he was interrupted by a group of men shouting orders.

"That's the girl! Get her!" One of men said, and the rest of them came running at Aye. But even before she could get her fans out, they were all knocked down onto the ground. The last man was standing in front of Kazama, trembling.

"Wha, what are you?" He said, his voice squeaking. But before he could do anything, or even move, his head was separated from the rest of his body. His head dropped to the ground, a fountain of blood spraying everywhere, including Aye's legs.

Then, she felt something hit her stomach, and the whole world tilted.

The last thing she saw was Kazama Chikage's scarlet eyes.

* * *

><p>Aye entered a place with a very strange aura. If she wasn't here to save Chizuru, she would've been wary, and took it slowly. But since she was_ here to get Chizuru, she quickly ran in, and opened every door in the place, until she found one, where Kazama Chikage was. She halted in front of the door, and strained to listen to the conversation that was going on in the room._

"Kazama, what are you going to do with the girl now?" A deep voice asked.

_"He's probably going to force herâ€”" A familiar voice said, but Aye

couldn't be bothered enough to guess who. He was cut off by a footstep, and the door slid open. Aye jumped, but she was too startled to move. Would Kazama know it was her even if half of her face was covered?_

"What are you doing here?" He hissed, his red eyes catching Aye off guard. She didn't say anything and just stood there, unsure of what to do.

"You came here to get Yukimura Chizuru, didn't you?" Smirked Kazama.

"In fact, I did." Replied Aye, her hands reaching for her katana. She unsheathed it, and glared at Kazama.

"Where is she?"

"Now, why would I tell you?"

"Tell. Me." She said through clenched teeth. Aye raised her katana, and tried to strike Kazama. But her sword was stopped mid-way by a large hand that grabbed her katana.

"I believe this fight is unnecessary," said the man, his words directed at Aye. She swore and sheathed her katana.

"Where is Chizuru?" Aye asked, her gaze drifting to the man's cyan eyes.

"I am afraid you have come to the wrong place to find that Oni,"

"What do you mean?"

"A few days ago, she was taken by her twin brother and her father." Kazama said, his red eyes full of hatred.

"And you didn't bother to fight? I thought she wasâ€”"

"They had an army of Rasetsu's, and they were too fast for us to catch them." The man cut off.

"Do you know the location of they took Chizuru?" Although Aye hated relying on the Oni's for information, they were her only source.

"Their usual hideout. Follow me, if you will."

They arrived at the mountains not long after, and Aye turned to Amagiri.

"Why did you help me here?" She asked, suspicion filled in her eyes. But before she could hear anything he said, Amagiri was gone.

_Without thinking, Aye ran into the hideout, where Chizuru would be. But the moment she walked in, she was attacked by a group of white haired beasts. She was ready, though, as she sliced through one being after another. Killing the Rasetsu was not very hard, but as they kept coming again and again, their group never ending, she started

getting hit. One of them lunged at her, and she hit its katana away. It screeched as its hand came for her face, and scratched her pale skin. Blood trickled down her cheek to her neck, and dripped onto the floor._

As she swept through the wave of demons, she was getting tired, and a burst of adrenaline was the only thing that was keeping her alive. But as she littered the area with corpses, she began feeling light headed and dizzy. She couldn't make it out alive in this condition. She had to change to a Rasetsu herself. Although the thought was sickening, once she changed, she felt better, and the metal smell of blood started to smell good.

Aye killed the last Rasetsu that was in front of her, and it tumbled to the ground. After checking that there were no more left, she started walking through the ground full of bloodied bodies. But she was stopped short when she spotted a man. And by his side, was a boy who looked exactly like Chizuru. He stepped forward, drawing his sword. Aye shook the blood from her katana, and readied herself for the battle that was yet to come.

"Where is she?!" Yelled Aye, as she lunged at the boy.

6. Notice

Hey guys! I'm really sorry, but I won't be updating for the following two weeks.

Life is getting very tiring for me, and I haven't really had the time to read.

I'll be coming back on February 9th!

7. Chapter 6

A/N: OH MY GOD... Everyone, I am SO sorry! I am a week late! I accidentally thought that I was supposed to update today (February 16th). And there were a lot of things going on... Anyways, I am really sorry, and I swear that one day (when I feel like writing a lot) I will make it up to you by updating more chapters for a week. Please forgive me!

So! The last chapter ended with Aye meeting Kaoru, and lunging at him to tell her where Chizuru is... What do you think will happen? Well, you gotta read to find out!

P.S. Maybe I was also watching Fairy Tail and got addicted... SORRY!

* * *

><p>"Did you check on her?"<p>

"Yes, Serizawa-sensei." Serizawa? That name sounded too familiar as Aye struggled to sit up. She realized her hands were bound with a rope, and so were her legs. She felt for her fans or any weapons, but all of them were missing. She swore, and the door of the dark room opened. A man stepped in, and he stood there, looking down at Aye. As

she looked up, her eyes widened and she cursed.

"Youâ€¦" Aye said, glaring at the man standing in front of her. He smirked, and held something out. It was an ornament, a woman's. Then it hit her. It was the ornament that she had stabbed his thigh with.

"Hmmmâ€¦ I see, you remember this?" Serizawa smirked. He was now sitting beside her, looking calm.

Aye couldn't stay like this. She had to find a way to unbind these ropes and get out. She started twisting her hands to get out, but her hands were tied too firmly. She then was forced to look into his eyes when he put his hand on her chin.

"You don't want to die, do you?" Said Serizawa, now caressing her cheek. She felt disgusted. Aye just glared into his eyes, but his smile never wavered. "If you want to live, why don't you pay me with yourâ€¦ body?" He said, a mad smirk spreading over his face. She could feel herself shaking, not from fear, but from revulsion and anger.

"Never." Aye said, as she spit onto his face. Immediately, his smirk was tore off from his face, and replaced with an angrier one.

"How dare you!" Yelled Serizawa, as his hand raised to strike her. She closed her eyes, waiting for the pain to come. But it wasn't just pain, but impact, as it slammed her to the wall of the room. She tried not to make any sounds, but a slight groan passed her lips as she slumped to the ground. Her cheek ached, and she could taste the blood in her mouth.

Serizawa was in front of her a second later and he looked down at her. Aye spat the blood in her mouth at the man's feet, and he sneered at her.

"You think you can kill me?" He said, bringing his face close to hers as he wiped the spit from his face. "YOU. CAN'T. DEFEAT. ME." Each word was like a needle in her heart. She placed her hands on the floor, and tried to push herself up, but failed, and fell to the ground.

She hated being so weak and powerless. Especially to a selfish and disgusting bastard. With her hands on the floor, she couldn't do anything but keep trying to get up. But Serizawa didn't stop her. He just stayed there, smirking at Aye. He was playing with the hair ornament in his hand, twirling it. He then smiled, and plunged it to the ground. There was a sickening crunch, and blood pooled around Aye's hand. Her vision went black, and white spots invaded her sight. She looked down, and realized that the ornament was now on the floor, stabbed through Aye's right hand. She swallowed back a scream, and grimaced, but kept her head down as tears formed in the corner of her eyes. Then a hand grabbed her hair and lifted her from the ground. Aye screamed as the ornament slid out of her hand the other way. Her hand felt numb, and her head felt like the hair was being pulled out of her scalp. She couldn't do anything, since her hands were bound and her feet were tied together. She kicked and thrashed, and even though she knew she looked ridiculous, she had to do something.

Serizawa knocked her head onto the wall, and blood trickled down from her head. She bit into her cheek, as she felt her head throbbing.

"If you don't intend to repay me, how about I just kill you?" He asked, his hand still full of Aye's hair. "Or maybe that may be too kind of me."

She couldn't remember anything after.

* * *

><p>The sound of swords clashing was like music to Aye's ears, as she brought her katana down, only to be met by another one. But as they fought, Aye was growing tired, and the grip on her Rasetsu side started slipping. Panting, she scanned the area for any signs of Chizuru, and almost got hit by the boy's blade.

"Getting tired?" Said the boy as he thrust his katana into Aye's shoulder. She jumped out of the way, but the blade still hit her shoulder, and she hissed in pain. She then realized that the man who had been standing next to the boy was gone. He must have gone to Chizuru. Aye's whole body ached, and she probably couldn't keep this fight up for much longer. So she crashed her katana as hard as she could, to finish quickly. But the small boy was too quick, and wouldn't give her a break. Aye swung her sword at his neck, and he dodged just by an inch. Seeing that as an opening, Aye grabbed three of her daggers and threw them at the boy.

Each found their way to his neck, chest, and his stomach. This attack would probably kill himâ€”not right away, but he would bleed to death. She ran into the building, and heard footsteps and a muffled scream somewhere. She followed the noise.

Chizuru's hands were tied behind her back, and her mouth was covered by a piece of cloth. She was currently being led somewhere by the man. When her caramel eyes met Aye's, they turned wide. There were tears in Chizuru's eyes, and judging from what Aye could see right now, she wasn't injured. Sighing in relief, Aye neared the man, and he reached to his side, and unsheathed a short katana. Aye has seen the sword so many times there was no way she would've forgotten it. It was Chizuru's.

She charged at the man, her fans in each hand now. She wanted to go easy on an old man. But she had underestimated him. He was skilled, and she was tired. There was a low chance of her winning. So sliding the blades in the fans out, she sliced the air, and stabbed the man in his shoulder. He swore and fell to the ground, clutching his arm.

"Chizuru!" Said Aye, rushing towards Chizuru. She untied the cloth around her mouth first, and then worked on her hands.

"Aye-chan! Thank god you're here," said Chizuru, her voice shaking a little. When her hands were free from the rope, Chizuru embraced Aye in a tight hug.

"Are you alright? Did he hurt you?"

_"I'm fine. But what about you? And how did you know where I

was?"_

"Kazama," sighed Aye, now remembering that Chizuru had been held captive by two people. "I think we are both tired, and we should head back to the Shinsengumi's headquarters." She said, giving Chizuru the best smile she could make out right now.

"Yeah, why don't we do that?"

* * *

><p>When they arrived at the headquarters, they were welcomed by the Shinsengumi, and especially a relieved Hijikata-san. Aye rushed out of the crowd, feeling tired and sick. She just wanted to take a bath and rest in her room. She stepped into her room, swiftly taking a change of clothes. Walking to the bath took a while. Aye bumped into way too many people, and they kept telling her how happy they were that she was back. Wanting to take a bath, she brushed them away, and continued her walk.

She finally went into the room, feeling relieved she was now alone. After slipping out of her bloodstained and sweaty clothes, she stepped into the warm water. She probably looked like a huge mess right now. The whole water began to turn red, and she realized the huge cut on her shoulder that she had forgotten about. She clenched her teeth, feeling the pain that vibrated through her body. She wiped the blood, and cleaned her body.

Aye felt like a new person after soaking herself in water. She slipped into her clean pair of clothes, and walked out, closing the door behind her. Swiftly moving through hallways, she went into her room, and rummaged through her drawers, looking for something to bandage her wound with. She found a piece of cloth, and it looked long enough for it to go around her whole shoulder.

Slipping the top of the silky clothing off, she took a look at her shoulder. There was still some blood forming, and the cut looked quite deep. Grabbing the piece of cloth, she wrapped it around her shoulder, and tying it up at the end. The fabric had already turn red by the time she slipped her clothes back on.

"Aye-chan?" Heisuke's voice was heard through the door.

"Yes?"

"Are you alright? It's time for dinner, and you haven't come out, so we were worried."

"It's already time? Sorry, I'll be out in a moment," said Aye. She stood from the floor, feeling a little light-headed from standing up too quickly. Walking towards the door, she slid it open and found Heisuke standing, a huge grin on his face.

"We're having a feast tonight. Kondou-san is really glad that you and Chizuru are okay, and wishes to thank you." He said, as they walked towards the dining room.

_"Excuse us," Aye said for the both of them. When they entered, she spotted all the Shinsengumi captains sitting on the floor, and

Chizuru, who had a bright smile. The food tonight was differentâ€”as Heisuke had mentioned. Fish, rice, and so many other side dishes that she didn't even know the names of._

"Aye-san, how are you feeling?" Kondou-san asked, a tinge of concern in his voice.

"I am fine, Kondou-san," answered Aye, smiling up at the man, and his expression brightened.

"That is good to hear, but could you please explain what had happened?" Sannan-san questioned.

"Wellâ€¦"

* * *

><p>Woah, I just checked my story, and WOW. 1,023 reads? 13 followers? 11 favorites? I know some of you may not think that this is a big number, but to me, it really is. And it's very meaningful. So I thank all of you!

**Kitsune Kyubi: Thanks for the kind review! I really worked hard on the trailer, and I appreciate that you actually bothered to watch it AND post a review.**

**Sakazaki-Rikou: Thank you for always reading and reviewing my story! You posted the most reviews, and I really thank you for that.**

That's it guys! Hope you guys enjoyed that chapter, and keep reading and reviewing it. PLEASE! I will see you next week, with more of Scarlet Moonlight! Thank you!

8. Chapter 7

A/N: Hello everyone! I am back with more of Scarlet Moonlight. I know this chapter is quite short... But please try to enjoy it! And just incase anyone is confused or anything, Serizawa was not part of the old Shinsengumi in this story. Lately I have had to prepare for school and everything next week. I also had to do a 4 hour worth of volunteer service just for school. So I am sorry that I am posting this chapter later than usual, and that it is short. But I swear on everything I love. I will make it up to you guys someday. Now, I don't know when that 'someday' is, but it's probably not THAT far away.

Kind of late, but:

HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR!

And happy reading!

* * *

><p>The sound of chains woke Aye from her deep slumber. She didn't notice the state she was in, until she felt the overwhelming pain coming all at once. Where was she? And why was she chained up? Wherever she was, it was dark and reeked of blood. Footsteps echoed

through the space, and she lifted her head, and found a large figure standing in front of her.<p>

"I see, you have woken up," the man said. His voice was low, and he seemed to be smirking.

"Whoâ€¦ are you?" Aye asked, not remembering anything. She didn't remember why or how she got here either.

"Do you not remember?" He said, a venomous expression taking over his face. "Then why don't I help you remember?" The man pulled out a hair ornament from his robe. It was beautiful, but was coated with dry blood.

"Serizawaâ€¦" Aye whispered, as she recalled what had happened before she lost her mind. Everything was still dim and hazy. A growl of rage ripped through her dry mouth, and she used all the strength left in her body to pull on the cuffs that were holding her back from slitting the man's throat. She pulled, shifting into her Rasetsu form. But the cuffs and the chains would not budge. What were they made of?

"These were made from the finest iron in Japan," he commented, stating that her struggling was pointless. Aye was now panting, but tried to hide how exhausted she actually was.

"Damn it," she swore, making Serizawa smirk.

"Do not worry, you will be home soon, with the _Shinsengumi_." He spat. This earned him a startled expression from Aye.

"Howâ€¦"

* * *

><p>Everything was a blinding shade of white, and there was nobody else besides Aye. She was sprawled on the ground, looking up lifelessly. Waitâ€¦ Something was wrong. She wasâ€¦ looking at herself? Aye moved closer to the body, and took a look. It really was herself. The Aye on the floor wasn't moving or breathing. She seemed to be dead.

"Whatâ€¦" She asked herself. What in the world was going on here? Then there was a person walking towards them, their laugh rumbling. The man was tall, and his blonde hair ruffled at the sudden gust of wind. Aye stared wide-eyed at the man, suddenly feeling too tired to look up.

_"Kazamaâ€¦" She whispered. Had he killed her? Why? _

"Aye," Kazama said. Aye? He wouldn't call her that. This was wrong. Everything here was wrong.

"Aye!"

* * *

><p>"Aye!" A familiar voice shouted. Aye opened her eyes, to find Chizuru and Harada-san atop her. From the looks of it, she was laying on the floor in front their headquarters. So everything was just a

dream.<p>

"What happened?" Chizuru asked, a little dumbfounded at the situation.

"Iâ€¦ I don't know," answered Aye. Her response was followed by a startled shout, as Harada-san hauled her up.

"We need to get you inside. Look at your wounds," he said. This wasn't the usual playful Harada-san. He was actually serious this time. _Feeling_ her injuries, she lifted her right hand, as there was a hole that pierced it.

* * *

><p>Chizuru was now treating her injuries, being careful not to hurt Aye. When she came down to her right hand, Aye hissed at how much it stung. Being the kind natured girl she is, Chizuru winced and looked at Aye with her beautiful honey-colored eyes.<p>

"It's fine," she said, waving her other hand. It was a lie. It hurt like hell. She noticed that she was biting her inner cheek so hard; she could taste the metallic flavor of blood.

"About going back to Shimabaraâ€¦" Chizuru started. "I really don't think you should go back." A frown formed between her eyebrows.

"Chizuru, I must go. To be honest, I haven't been of any help yet."

The brown-haired girl then started asking about things that had happened at the red-light district. Although she knew it wouldn't be a too pleasant talk, she was curious. Aye told her mostly everythingâ€”but of course, leaving out the parts with Kazama.

Then Heisuke called from outside, that Kondou-san wanted everyone to assemble at the meeting room.

* * *

><p>"Aye-san, do you mind telling us what happened?" Kondou-san gently asked, trying not to sound like he was prying.<p>

"The thing isâ€¦ Iâ€¦ don't remember," lied Aye, feeling guilty that she said that. Even though her loyalties lay with the Shinsengumi, she felt like she would endanger everyone by telling them.

"What happened before? How can you notâ€”"

"Lets not ask too many questions," cut in Chizuru. Despite being the quiet and polite one, she was confident when it came down to Hijikata-san. She just gave him 'the look', and he cleared his throat and quieted down.

Then there was a gunshot outside, and everyone jolted up. But they didn't even need to try and guess who it was. There was only one person who would use a gun in here, and only one person who could've ordered him.

* * *

><p>So that's it! And you probably know who the 'one person' is. You know...

Anyways, I thank all of you who have even bothered to read my story, but I especially thank those of you who actually took the time to write me a review! Sorry, these things kind of make me all jumpy. I know my story is not perfect or anything, and that it has taken down the path of a little bit ofâ€” okay, maybe quite a lotâ€”violence. But do not fear! The next few chapters just MIGHT have some romance between Kazama and Aye. I mean, I honestly don't know, but yeah...

**Sakazaki-Rikou: I really thank you for writing a review for almost every chapter of my story!**

**anonia12: Yeah... I'm sorry if you dislike this story, but I am trying my best...**

**Kitsune Kyubi: THANK YOU SO MUCH! You have always wrote such kind reviews~ And I'm so glad to hear that my story made your day! It makes me want to cry out of joy. And your review makes MY day!**

Goodbye, and see you next Monday!

P.S. If you guys get bored while waiting for this story, you can go ahead on Wattpad, and read my sister's AWESOME book. I'm not saying this because she's my sister, but because this story is truly the best.

It's called:

**The Queen's Essence Book 1: The Calling**

Thanks!

9. Chapter 8

A/N: I was re-reading the past chapters, and realized that I never got to explain what Aye wears. ****I guess Aye normally wears something like Yamazaki's clothes (black, kinda like a ninja). And another thing, the Shinsengumi are NOT Rasetsu's in my fanfiction. Lots of you wanted to read from Kazama's perspective, and so I will do that for you. It might not be so good, cause you know, he's a really 'shut off' kind of person and his thoughts are also hard to write. ****This chapter sort of has a _'Ooooo~ Kazama romance moment'_. :P You'll see, you'll see.

And I'm sorry that my update is later in the day, but from now on, I will be updating it around this time every Monday. School started, and everything has become so much more confusing and busy. So please try to understand, and thank you.

Happy reading!

* * *

><p>Red hair... The woman standing in front of him was beautifulâ€”no, there was no word that could describe her. Kazama stood there, frozen and unable to move. It seemed as if the woman had somehow paralyzed him with her beauty. But he never thought of anyone as beautiful, or stunning.

Who was this extraordinary woman?

She was wearing an all black attire, with her copper hair tied back. The girl slowly turned around and the only thing he got a glimpse of were her gray eyes, and then he was pulled away, into the real world.

* * *

><p>The sound of a gunshot made him remember that he was at the Shinsengumi headquarters to finish this business once and for all. Yes. He couldn't be daydreaming about some beautiful woman. He would not fail this time. He would not let anyone get in his way.<p>

Soon enough, the members of the Shinsengumi were out, unsheathing their katanas. Among them was the Rasetsu. None of them seemed to be relaxed, as they all raised their swords and stood in an offensive stance. Everyone, everything was still and silent. Then, there was a wary voice that cut through the silence.

"You will not have Chizuru," the voice said. Kazama recognized her instantly. Her copper hair was tied up in a bun, and strands were handing down, framing her delicate and pale face. She seemed to be injured, as she had cloth around her head and right hand. What surprised him was that she would stand up despite the state she was in right now. But that faded quickly, as he recalled the time when she had demanded a fight when she was brutally injured. He just smirked, and waited for her to say or do anything.

He was like a predator, who had just spotted its prey.

* * *

><p>Aye was standing a few paces away from Kazama, and was startledâ€”no, shockedâ€”when she saw his expression. It was somehow like he was surprised, but not. But as quick as his expression had changed, it changed back to the calm, yet unsettling smirk. Her face turned a shade red, as she scolded herself for thinking such things that would probably never happen.

Still not wanting to back out, she looked up into those scarlet eyes, but instead found herself trapped in them.

"We know why you are here, Kazama." Hijikata-san spoke, holding Chizuru behind him. "Get out," he said.

"If you think we'll leave that easily, you're mistaken," Shiranui hummed. Aye hated how the purple haired man was always acting as if everything was a game. Did they think that getting Chizuru would be easy? Considering the number of times they have failed, they should've given up. These were some persistent people.

Hijikata-san charged at the blonde man, and sliced through. But his efforts were met by a dodge each time. Shiranui and Amagiri also got

into action. Aye also took a step, but was stopped by a large yet kind hand.

"Aye-san, you are injured. Why don't you keep an eye on Chizuru?" Voiced Kondou-san. She gave him a short nod, as he strode into battle as well. Chizuru and Aye were left out, and as Aye observed the scene, she stood there, wanting nothing more than to fight. But she had to do something about Chizuru. Hide her? Yes, that was probably the smartest thing she could do.

The two girls ran towards a room with Aye leading. When she was sure that nobody was watching or following, she opened a door to a random room and pushed Chizuru and herself in. Putting a finger to her mouth, Aye gestured to keep as quiet as she could. Since Kazama and the others were an Oni, they could probably hear them breathing.

Trying to be noiseless as possible, Aye did not dare to move even an inch. She strained to hear what was happening outside, and only heard battle cries. It would be a huge trouble if anyone came here, since Aye was injured and could barely hold her katana. If the time came, she would have to use all her might. She couldn't even shift into her Rasetsu form.

Then, there were footsteps. Footsteps were coming their way. Holding her breath, Aye tightened her grip on the hilt of her sword, forgetting all the pain that was pulsing. The only thing she could hear were the footsteps, and her own heard pounding against her chest.

The person stopped in front of the door, and Chizuru jerked back as she saw the shadow. The looming figure's hand reached up, and he slid open the door. Drawing her katana out, she stabbed the personâ€”or at least tried toâ€”but missed. No, the man caught her sword.

Amagiri stood in front of the two unmoving girls. He had a hold of Aye's katana in one hand. What kind of monster was he? Feeling the need to defend her and Chizuru with something else, Aye slipped a dagger in her left palm and threw it with all her might.

If he were a normal human beingâ€”which he was notâ€”the dagger would've hit him, and maybe even caused him to bleed to death. But Amagiri stayed there, unfazed. He had avoided her attack with ease. The dagger had flown somewhere outside.

"I do not desire to fight against women," stated the man. He let the sword drop from his hand, and looked Aye straight in the eye. Then a question that she had wanted to know the answer to came up in mind.

"What do you want with Chizuru?" She asked.

"That is not something for me to tell." Amagiri said, disappointing her. This probably meant that if she wanted to know, she would have to ask Kazama herself.

'This isn't the time to be casually talking with an enemy.'

Aye had to get Chizuru out of here, away from all the disaster and danger. Even if it meant sacrificing herself, Aye could die, but

Chizuru couldâ€”and wouldâ€”not. She looked back at Chizuru, to find the girl kneeling on the floor, looking up with her wide eyes. Aye pointed to the door behind her backâ€”a door that would lead her to another room, which was connected to an exit.

Trusting that her friend would have gotten her point, she breathed in, and spoke.

"I don't count as a woman."

* * *

><p>Am I being too mean to Aye? Sorry, but I really like it when the main girl is tough and can stand all the mean things an author can do to her. :D Have any of you guys read my sister's story by the way? Just asking.

**ILoveKuramaTooMuch: Thank you so much! I read your review, and it literally made me smile for the whole day. I couldn't stop myself from feeling proud of myself and bragging about it to others. :P Thank you, and please keep sending in reviews!**

That is it for today! I will see everyone next Monday!

10. Chapter 9

A/N: Hello everyone! So I am back with Chapter... Ummm... Chapter 9. And I am really truly, so very sorry that I am uploading this late (well, maybe not but late in Korea). My days have been really hard on me... Anyways, enough about me and my tough life. So Amagiri and Shiranui don't know that Aye is a Rasetsu, YET. I guess Kazama just didn't really feel the need to tell them. Or... Or something else? I honestly don't know. Ahahahaha :P And somewhere in my story, I want to add a part where Chizuru saves somebody for once, because I don't want her to become a helpless little idiot. Because I really like the character Chizuru, and I was kind of sad that in the series she wasn't much of a help to the Shinsengumi. But that was a total different story in the movies. Also, is it just me, or does Kazama smirk more in front of Aye?

Happy reading!

* * *

><p>It was pretty obvious that all of Aye's attacks were not doing anything to Amagiri. He kept on disappearing into thin air, but he never struck her back. But that was enough. The only thing she cared about right now was Chizuru getting out of this place, safe and sound. Her body felt like it was going to break, but she just kept going anyways.<p>

"Stay away from me!" Chizuru yelled, startling Aye. The red haired girl looked back, and saw Kazama slowly gliding towards Chizuru. She had her short katana out, trying her best to defend herself as she slowly stepped away from the menacing man. Chizuru's hands were shaking, but her eyes told a different story. They showed no sign of fear, just pure anger.

But in that split second, Amagiri knocked away Aye's sword, and she

was left with only her fans. With Chizuru being cornered by Kazama, and herself in trouble, this was probably the worst thing that could happen.

Maybe not.

The brunette had her katana out, it's blade facing the Oni who now had a spine-chilling smile. Kazama just kept walking towards Chizuru, and slowly. Aye threw one of her fans towards him, but it only ended up embedded into the poor wall. He smirked, and looked at Aye with his alluring yet petrifying eyes.

With his quick speed, he grabbed Chizuru's katana, and used it to knock her out. She slumped against Kazama, and he handled her with surprising gentleness.

"We have what we came here for." Kazama declared, and Amagiri nodded. The big man bowed to Aye, and walked away. But she wasn't going to let them just go. She chased after them, and struck Kazama with her fan, to no avail. He easily dodged, as Aye's movements were slowing down. All the pain she had pushed away were coming back. Biting her cheek, she swallowed everything she felt, and charged at Kazama, when she was stopped by a shout.

"Chizuru!" Hijikata-san yelled. He ran towards Kazama, as he was setting the girl down onto the floor. Then, unsheathing his katana and putting on his trademark smirk, he waited for the purple-eyed man to attack him. The first clang of swords clashing was like a signal for starting their own war.

Of course Hijikata-san was being pushed back, and Kazama obviously had the upper hand. But with his nickname as the Oni Vice-Commander, he was known for his persistence.

Aye ran towards Chizuru, and checked her pulse to see if she was fine. She seemed to be all right, just unconscious. Lifting up the small girl from the hard stone floor, she made her way towards the wooden floor of the compound. She would be warmer on wood, than on the cold ground. Aye turned towards the two men who were fighting, and looked at the view that was spread across her vision. Every time their katanas crashed each other, Aye held herself back. She wanted to go in there and help, but right now, she would only be a burden, and not much of a help. Her hand throbbed, so she raised her right hand up to her face. The once white-bandaged hand was covered in specks of red blood.

"You are injured," stated a low-pitched voice. Letting her arms drop, she looked at Amagiri, who looked like he had been standing there for quite a while. Getting into a defensive stance, she held her fan out with her left hand, in fear that the blood would stain the beautiful object. It was one of the only things she possessed that she actually cared about, the other being her katana.

"You will not take Chizuru." Aye declared through clenched teeth. She looked into the poised expression in the man's eyes, and found herself lost in them. But it was different from Kazama. When she looked into Kazama's crimson eyes, she was lost, and couldn't find her way back. With those cyan eyes, she was able to escape easily.

"_I_ do not wish to take her, but it is Kazama who wishes to, and I will follow his command."

"I don't give aâ€”" Aye was interrupted by the sound of a sword clanging against the stone. Hijikata-san was on the groundâ€”not too far awayâ€”with Kazama pointing his sword at his chest.

"This will end it," he said in a deadly tone. He raised his arm, and Aye ran.

* * *

><p>Two pale hands stopped Kazama's katana. A slender body standing in front of him, showing no sign of being a man. A woman? His gaze moved to the face that was looking him straight in the eyes with their gray ones. Copper hair tousled and bandaged, she didn't seem to be in the best shape.<p>

Smelling the tang of metal and the bitterness, Kazama looked at Aye's hands, as red liquid seeped through. Her hands were shaking, and as if the girl had noticed it, her grip tightened.

"Youâ€¦ Won't kill anyoneâ€¦ Unless I'm here." She huffed. A drop of blood trickled down from her hands to the earth, and it was followed by a trail of more.

The man who was on the ground had gotten upâ€”not that he caredâ€”and after giving the girl one last glance, he left towards Amagiri and the female Oni. Amagiri could handle him.

He plastered that perfect smirk on his face, and looked at the person who was slowly loosening her grip on his katana. When she completely let go, he swung the blood off in one swift motion. The fluid splattered onto the ground.

"Why are you here?" She shouted, her eyes hooded by some shadowâ€”possibly pain. But there was something else in her voice. Not anger, but something different.

* * *

><p>Aye stood there, pulling at the urge to just give up and pass out right now, in front of the Oni of the West. No. She would not do that. Butâ€¦ She was a mess. Her hands were pulsating, screaming at her to do something to make them better. And she had a splitting headache, starting from her head all the way to her spine.<p>

The man in front of her was definitely mocking her, laughing at her inwardly. But even if he was, he didn't show it.

"I am afraid my business is not with you, Rasetsu." And he was gone.

Less than a few seconds later, Kazama was above Hijikata, flying.

"Kazama!"

"I will not fail another time," he said, and his katana made it's way to Hijikata-san's heart.

Or was going to.

At that split second, two cries were heard.

* * *

><p>Okay... So... How was that? Please give me a lot of honest and mean (I don't mean SERIOUSLY MEAN stuff...) reviews! Thank you everyone for being so kind and waiting... (Sorry!)

**ILoveKuramaTooMuch: You know, I've always wanted to say this, but I always kind of lost it in somewhere... I really like your name! Hehe... Kurama is cool, andâ€” Okay. So thank you so much for your review, I really thank you not only because it's long, but it's detailed, and I can actually understand it. Because sometimes people send me private messages and I never understand what they're saying... So, thank you so much, and please stay with me till the end!**

**kitsunekyubi1 (sorry, the site won't let me put periods between your name): Hey, thank you so much for your review! Oh my sister's story is not a fanfiction of any sort, just her own. She owns everything AND everyone her book, and yeah... Her username is 'juneirenekim', and her book is called 'The Queen's Essence Book 1: The Calling'.**

Everyone, thank you for reading my story, and I will be back next week with Chapter 10!

11. Chapter 10

A/N: Hello everyone! I am finally back with Chapter 10 of Scarlet Moonlight! So... I don't know if any of you have noticed, but I changed the cover for my story! Please take a look at it, and tell me what you think about it. I honestly think that it's WAY better, but I don't care about my opinion! I care about your's! So please, be honest and send me a review or PM. So the last chapter ended with quite the cliffhanger, and so I'll stop with my nonstop author's note and lets get on with the story!

* * *

><p>Standing there, Aye could not do anything but stay frozen in place. At that second when Hijikata-san was about to be stabbed by the Oni, someone jumped in. Kazama's katana pierced through the person's shoulder, splattering blood here and there.<p>

"Chizuru!" The two Shinsengumi members yelled. The blonde man's eyes widened, but showed no sign of surprise other than that.

Rushing towards the brunette, Aye limped as she suddenly felt her whole body about to give up. But she was cut short when Chizuru's eyes turned gold and a blue aura swept around her. Now, shocked _and_ in pain, Aye dropped onto the ground.

Her eyes threatened to close at the moment when she was most needed. She needed to save Chizuru. Needed to kill Kazama. But her body would

not listen. She felt as if some force was sucking out her soul. Her _life_.

Was she going to die here?

She couldn't afford to. She still had so many things to do. There wasn't anything that was impossible for her. She would live. She _had to_ live.

But as if her body was doing the exact opposite of her mind, she dropped everything.

* * *

><p>Dark. Dark and cramped. Aye reached her hands out, but only felt edges and walls. Outside of wherever she was, she could hear murmurs. Something fell, and it kept falling. Every time, it landed right above her face, but she couldn't feel anything.

_Then suddenly, silence. The silence was so loud; she thought nothing like this could ever exist. The stillness of everything suddenly so painful, tears streamed down her cheekâ€”no, more like _poured_ down her cheek. Now, the only sound available was her quiet sobs, and soon, her whole body felt as if it were about it rip into pieces._

She was in a coffin.

She didn't know where that knowledge came from, but it was just in her head. It reminded herself that she was dead. Why? But there was only one answer to the question.

Herself.

She had killed herself. She was weak, and had been too careless. It was nobody's fault, but her own.

Knocking on the front as hard as she could, she punched and punched. When she realized that was not enough, she started screaming.

"I'm alive! Let me out!" She yelled, as she began to panic. Her breathing came in short pants, and her eyelids were slowly closing. No, she couldn't die. Not here. The oxygen in her lungs began to run out, and her eyes slammed shut.

* * *

><p>Birds chirped, and a stream of warm sunlight hit her eyes. Aye was lying down, peacefully on her futon at the Shinsengumi headquarters.<p>

'Was it all a dream?'

But then she realized she was forgetting a huge point. Kazama was probably still in the compound, after Chizuru. Sitting up, she noticed that her whole body was wrapped with white cloth, and that blood was seeping through. All at once, everything hit her. The pain, _and_ memories of when the Oni's attacked.

'Was Chizuru safe? What had happened?'

Aye had no memory of anything after she watched Chizuru heal herself in her Oni state.

Barely able to move, Aye pulled herself towards the door, and slid it open. When she did, she found herself looking at someone's feet. She probably looked pathetic right now, sprawled on the floor. She looked up, and her gray eyes met with emerald green ones.

"Okita-san?" Squeaked Aye.

Then, a few footsteps rushed towards them. Saito-san and Nagakura-san were standing there, wide-eyed.

"I knew she wouldn't die," Okita-san said, grinning.

"How are you feeling?" Asked Saito-san, earning him a nudge from the big man next to him.

"I feelâ€¦ great," laughed Aye. She tried her best to seem like she was fineâ€”which she really wasn't. But even when she tried to brighten up the mood, nobody believed her. "Justâ€¦ kidding?"

"Aye-chan!" Chizuru yelled, getting on her knees as she spotted the girl on the ground. "Thank god you're alright," she whispered, as tears fell down from her beautiful eyes.

"Chizuru? Are _you_ all right? The last thing I remember isâ€”" Aye started, but stopped when she felt too tired to say anything. She winced, and was released from Chizuru's tight embrace.

"Let me tell you about that,"

* * *

><p>Asking the others to give them time to talk, Aye and Chizuru were the only ones in the room now. Making sure that Aye was in a comfortable position lying down, Chizuru started to talk about what had happened after Aye had blacked out.<p>

"Youâ€¦ downright rejected him?" Aye asked, quite surprised that Kazama would actually respect Chizuru's opinion.

Only nodding, Chizuru put a towel on Aye's forehead.

"You're not fully healed yet. You shouldn't tire yourself."

There was a knock on the door, followed by Harada-san's voice.

"I'm coming in," he said as he opened the door. A cool breeze ran inside, touching Aye's hot and sweaty face. Harada-san was grinning like an idiot, and was holding a tray with food on top of it.

"Harada-san," Aye greeted, and was going to sit up, but was pushed back down with a gentle hand.

"No need to get up, I just came here to drop off some food." He said. "We don't want you up again but starved to death, right?"

Aye didn't know how he did it. But Harada-san always managed to brighten up the mood no matter how bad the situation was.

* * *

><p>It was night, and Aye kept her door open on purpose, just to see the stars. The stars always seemed to calm her down, and make her able to relax. They were like a map to her. A map for her to look up to when she was lost.<p>

She was currently lying down on her futon, thinking of all the times she thought she would die. But she never did. Was it because she was a Rasetsu? Or was it just somebody saving her all the time? There were so many questions in her mind, that she got a slight headache.

Closing her eyes, Aye slipped into the world where anything could happen.

* * *

><p>Hehehehe :D So this chapter's ending isn't much of a cliffhanger. If anything, it's not a cliffhanger at all. So this chapter was really boring, and I'm sorry about that... :(

In the next chapter, Aye will PROBABLY be in Shimabara (not sure...).

**ILoveKuramaTooMuch: I really don't know how to thank you... You have wrote such nice reviews, and not only that. They were like... A paragraph long. Whenever I see your review, I seriously feel like crying. But not in the bad way. Because I'm so touched and happy that someone actually reads my story and thinks about it... :') Your reviews always make my day, and whenever I feel down or bad about my book, I look at your review and everything becomes okay again! :) I know, I know, that's kinda weird, relying on just ONE person. But to me it's so much. So I know that I probably said this 1000000 times already, but THANK YOU SO MUCH! Please keep up with me and my story until the end!**

Everyone, thank you, and see you next week!

12. Chapter 11

A/N: Hello everybody! I am back with Chapter 11 of Scarlet Moonlight! So have any of you been waiting for my upload? Huh? Huh? Sorry... Just excited about updating, that's all. :P To be honest, this chapter probably isn't really THAT good... I'm sorry... It might not fit the story a little... But I really wanted to add a part where I could show that Aye isn't only a coldblooded killer. Anyways, I thank everyone for their kindness, and here we go!

* * *

><p>It had been a month since the incident with the Oni's. Everything was so much more peaceful, and there were no more people coming after Chizuru. After she had said that she did not wish to go with them,

Kazama left without another word. But now that he wasn't coming back, Aye didn't have anything left to do for Chizuru. Although she was still wary of her surroundingsâ€”Kazama did not seem like the person who would give up easilyâ€”Chizuru was pretty safe in the hands of the Shinsengumi.<p>

"To Shimabara?" Kondou-san asked.

"Yesâ€¦ Since Chizuru seems to be safe, and I haven't had the time to say a proper goodbye." Aye replied, not sure what to expect for an answer.

"Sure, but how are you feeling?"

"Kondou-san, it's been a month. It would be weird if I wasn't fine," answered Aye, smiling. "Anyways, I don't plan on staying that long."

"Alright, but please, think about your health," spoke the man, his light brown eyes filled with kindness.

* * *

><p>After saying her farewells with everyone in the Shinsengumi, Aye made her way towards the red-light district. She had to use her head a little, and ask for directions, because it had been such a long time since she had last been there.<p>

Arriving in front of the entrance, Aye stepped in, and found everyone running busy despite it still being a little early for dinner. The whole place was packed with men and geisha, as well as the sound of laughter.

"Aye-sama?" A calm and endearing voice called, making her turn.

"Kimigiku-san?" Aye called. The beautiful and stunning woman smiled and nodded politely, causing her to do the same. But as if she knew what had happened to her during the time she was gone, she didn't ask about where or what she had been doing. Instead, she told her something that was shocking, yet wonderful news.

"I am afraid Kosuzu is not here,"

"Is that so?"

"She has left some time ago with a young man, and said that she was going to create a new life with him." Kimigiku said. And despite some of the concern in her expression, she seemed to be happy.

"Well, that's good to hear. At least some of us have been having a good timeâ€¦" Aye said, mumbling the last part.

"Actually, Aye-sama, if you don't mind, would you like to help us out?"

* * *

><p>Today sure was a busy day. Although Aye had only been at Shimabara for a few days the last time, she didn't think there were

so many people before. She was in the middle of delivering sakeâ€”she was given the task of making and delivering foodâ€”when a woman headed up to her.<p>

"I hear somebody has requested a private meeting with you," the woman whispered, looking up at her.

Wondering who it could be, Aye nodded her thanks to the lady and made her way to the room the 'mystery' person was waiting in. Probably some old pervert. Or maybe one of the Shinsengumi who came to tease her?

But all of those thoughts drained out of her mind when she saw who exactly had called for her.

His golden hair rested on his shoulders, and his blood red eyes stared into her as a smirk appeared on his face.

"Iâ€¦ heard you called for me?" Aye said in the most polite voice she could make up right now.

"Come sit here and pour some sake," he demanded. Aye stalked towards the man, and sat next to him, just as he commanded. She lifted the sake bottle and poured a generous amount, when he offered the cup to her.

"Iâ€”" But before she could say anything, she was cut off by Kazama.

"Drink," the Oni said, his eyes filled with murderous intent. But thankfully, Aye had a dagger with her. Slowly taking it out so that Kazama would not notice, she made her move. Her dagger was flung out of her hand, and it landed on the floor with a _clang_.

Kazama held her wrist, and she glared as hard as she could. He loosened his grip, and she snatched it herself away. Rubbing her wrist, she tried to shake away the feeling that he had stained where he held her with something.

"Drink." hissed Kazama, and Aye had a feeling that he was not in the best possible mood, so she cautiously took a sip. It burned her throat, but as if her body was begging for more, she sipped all the liquid on the cup. Smirking, Kazama took back the cup and Aye poured more for him. This time, he drank it himself.

A little bit wouldn't hurt, right?

* * *

><p>This was probably the most stupid and idiotic decision Aye had made.<p>

She never knew that sake tasted this good. Soon enough, they were done withâ€”not one bottleâ€”but three bottles of sake. Aye was clearly not the most sober person around, as she felt like falling asleep right at that moment. But compared to that, Kazama seemed to be perfectly fine. Their drinking fit had been going on with none of them talking, so she felt even more bored and drowsy.

Maybe it was because she was drunk, but she had the sudden urge to

break the silence.

"I heard that Chizuru rejected you!" Aye exclaimed, completely drunk. She just _had_ to say that. _That_ out of all the things she could've said. Why? She did not know.

But surprisingly, she didn't receive a glare or a death stare from Kazama, but a very short laugh. She couldn't tell if he was laughing at _her_ or at something else.

Almost in an instant, Kazama was leaning towards Aye, his eyes directly on hers. She could smell the slight tinge of sake, and a scent that was so addictive. Some of his golden locks brushed against her forehead, and they seemed to be softer than she thought they would be.

"Your hair is really softâ€¦" She murmured, quiet enough that nobody normal could hear. But he probably had. Which was definitely not good. But right now, she was too lost to thinkâ€¦

And she placed her lips on his.

* * *

><p>Woah! SHOCKER! So THAT happened...

I will see you guys next Monday!

13. Chapter 12

A/N: Hello everyone! I am back with Chapter 12 of Scarlet Moonlight! I really don't know what all of you will think and say about this one, but I guess I hope you guys like it. Soon I'm having exams, so I might have to put up a notice and stop writing for a while... Because I really need good grades or else I might not be able to see my laptop for quite a while... :(Anyways, hope you guys enjoy!

* * *

><p>Closing the space between them, Aye's lips met Kazama's. At first, he seemed to stiffen up, but then responded by kissing back. Her hands flew up, and they caressed his soft cheeks. What was she doing? She would have killed herself if she were in her right mind.<p>

Their kiss broke by Aye toppling over Kazama, and pinning him down on the floor. She was now on top of him, both of her hands placed on either side of his head. Aye started gigglingâ€”and this was the first time she didâ€”and hiccupped.

Suddenly, her expression changed, and she frowned.

"Why did you call for me?" Aye asked, all of a sudden serious. But as the blonde man started to say something, she fell back.

* * *

><p>Aye seemed to be in some really comfortable place. Her head hurt

like it was going to split in half, and she was in need of some water. A lot of water. She cracked her eyes open, and found herself looking up at very familiar surroundings. Aye sat up, and when the blanket fell around her, she realized that she was only in her undergarments.

Just then, the door slid open, and Kazama stepped in. He was holding a cup of water, his eyes striking red. Aye now knew that she was his room, where she had ended up countless times. What had happened? Was she being attacked? Was she saved by him? Orâ€”

The memory of last night at Shimabara came rushing back to Aye like a nightmare. She had kissed him. And he had kissed back. Or maybe that part was just her imagination. Butâ€¦ Why did she do that? Why?

Looking up, she found Kazama looking at her, as if he was waiting for her to say something.

"Why am I here?" She said, having nothing else to say.

"You were _drunk_ last night," spoke Kazama, emphasizing the word.

"I was _not_." Aye denied. Her eyes set themselves on his lips, and she quickly looked down. She hated being so vulnerable and helpless in front of the Oni. She remembered the softness of those lipsâ€¦ What was she thinking? She had to snap out of this. Whatever it was.

As if the splitting headache that Aye had was not enough, another one came, pounding in her head. Biting her cheek, she suppressed the feeling of something swelling out. But suddenly, she could smell the contents of what the cup was holding. It was sweet, and apparently mixed with water. Honey?

Kazama set the cup on the floor, and took his place near the window. He took out his pipe, and gray smoke started to fog up. Aye snatched the cup and gulped it down, and it slid down her throat. It instantly cured her thirstiness.

"Whatâ€¦ What happened last nightâ€”" She tried saying, but she was silenced was the man was sitting in front of her in an instant. His breath tickled Aye's cheek as he leaned forward. He stayed therefore a second, and she couldn't do anything as she was paralyzed.

* * *

><p>Something was wrong with the girl who was sitting in front of him. She had shifted into her Rasetsu form, unknowingly. But that wasn't the only thing that was not right about her. Each of her eyes had different colors. Red and gray.<p>

But it was not sickening or disgusting. It made her moreâ€¦ Attractive. Kazama had been unintentionally drawn to her. That was why last night, when she had kissed him, he had kissed back. He knew that she did it because she was drunk, but her lips were so gentle, yet rough.

Kazama didn't want to admit it. But he wanted to be able to love

her.

* * *

><p>Kazama had snuck out of Shimabara without anyone noticing, and he was now carrying Aye on his shoulder. She was drunk. Too drunk to even walk.

"Put me down!" Aye yelled, kicking and punching Kazama while she was upside down. She kept struggling, and that was not helping him at all. They were walking in a narrow alley and there weren't many people, but there still were some. And they all just stared at them.

Walking, he couldn't help but feel a little mortified. People started whispering to each other, and even though they thought he couldn't hear, he could hear loud and clear.

"Is he kidnapping her?"

"Taking advantage of the girl while she's drunk?"

"What a disgusting personâ€¦" Each step Kazama took, the more whispers there were. If he weren't carrying this woman right now, he would've ripped all their throats out. Groaning, he decided that he didn't have much of a choice but to transport to his place by using his powers. In a flash, he was gone, and nothing was left of him in that alley.

* * *

><p>The two of them were inside Kazama's chambers in a second, and as if she knew, Aye rolled of his shoulder and fell onto the ground with a loud thud_. She stood back up, and took off the fancy kimono that she was wearing._

"It's so hotâ€¦" She slurred. Taking off her clothes except for her undergarments, Aye lied down on the cold floor, and yawned. "Goodnight!" Aye exclaimed, and closed her eyes.

Sighing, Kazama made his way towards the girl who was sprawled non the floor, and listed her to his chest. Unsurprisingly, she was already asleep, as her breathing was slow and steady. Her skin was so cold against his hand, and he found himself rubbing his big hands up and down across her slender arm.

Laying the unconscious girl down onto the futon, he dragged the blanket up to her neck. He stood, and was about to leave when a pair of hands grabbed his arm. Aye was sitting up on the futon, but her eyes were closed.

"Don't leave meâ€¦" She mumbled. There was something behind the tone of her voice. Had she lost someone precious to her? Was she dreaming about them?

_Then a thought came through Kazama's mind. What ifâ€¦ The two of them weren't part of any of this? What if they were just regular citizens? Just a normal man and a woman. Then they could fall in love, get married and have a happy future. But they weren't. They were not oridinary humans. They couldn't have a life

together._

They were not normal beings, and the Oni knew that they had no future together.

* * *

><p>So that is it for today! I hope you guys liked that chapter!

ILoveKuramaTooMuch: Thank you so much for giving me a review that is like a paragraph long! I tried to read it as slowly as possible cause I didn't want that glorious moment to end. :P Anyways, thanks so much for always giving me a review and please stay with me till the end!

Gianti-Faith: Well, I'm really glad that you came to like Kazama anyways! He was always my favorite character in HakuÅ•ki... You know... Dark and mysterious. BUT HOT! Sorry... Thank you so much!

So... Thank you guys, and see you next week!

14. Chapter 13

A/N: Hello everyone! I am back with Chapter 13! And I must warn all of you before you read this, but... This chapter is HORRIBLE. Like, no kidding. You might read it and be like "What the FK was that?". Anyways, I might have caught a cold, so I'll probably take a break next week. And a pretty LONG one. Because I want to focus on studying for this month, and I also want to cure myself of this cold as soon as possible. I'm really really sorry, but please bear with me till the end. And don't worry, because I'll have this review and edit period when I'm done with the whole story, and I will fix everything that seems off and weird.**

Hope you enjoy! (Well, I don't think any of you can enjoy this, but...)

* * *

><p>Kazama had surprisingly let it off easily. He had just sent Aye out for her to wash herself. She looked at the water, andâ€¦ Something was off about her. Her eyes were red and gray. Maybe she was hallucinating or something from too much stressâ€¦

Closing her eyes, Aye splashed some water on her face. When she opened her eyes, she found her reflection looking at her. This time, she looked normal. Her eyes were their normal hue of gray. Aye exhaled, stood, and made her way towards the door of the room. Sliding it open, she found that it was empty, and felt disappointed. But soon, Kazama came in the room and smirked at her.

Blushing, Aye looked down, and looked at the wooden floor that was suddenly all too interesting. Why was it that she was always so confused and lost around him, but he always seemed unfazed?

Hitting herself on the head in her mind, Aye cleared her throat and

walked towards Kazama. She tried to avoid him, as she slipped pass him and made her way out.

She couldn't help but feel disappointed as she left the place.

* * *

><p>Although Aye had no sense of idea where she was, she shifted into her Rasetsu form and inhaled the scent of the trees around her. It seemed as if they were telling her where to go. Moving quickly, she proceeded to the Shinsengumi headquarters. But she was stopped by a crunch of leaves behind her.<p>

"Aye-sama?" A woman called. She turned around to see Kimigiku and Osen-chan looking at Aye with suspicion.

"Kimigiku-san? Osen-chan? What's wrong?" Asked Aye. Why were they looking at her like that?

"Weâ€¦ We sensed the presence of Chikage Kazama, and followed his scent. Until we found youâ€¦" They explained. Kazama's scent? It was true that she was with him until a moment ago, butâ€¦

"I think you are misunderstanding, butâ€”"

"His scent is all over you. You cannot fool us," Osen-chan hissed, surprising Aye.

"Putting everything aside for now, we have business with the Shinsengumi," Kimigiku said. "If you could, would you please deliver this message to Kondou-san?"

* * *

><p>Panting, Aye ran into the Shinsengumi headquarters, and alerted the guards that she needed to talk to Kondou-san.<p>

"We are very sorry, but he is not available right now," one of them said, and Hijikata-san rushed out with Chizuru by his side.

"What is it, Aye-chan?" Chizuru asked, frowning

"Kaoru Nagumo and Koudou Yukimuraâ€¦" Aye cringed after saying it.

"They're alive."

* * *

><p>"What is it," demanded Aye, and it was not a question.

"Kaoru Nagumo and Koudou Yukimura are alive." Osen-chan explained calmly. "They have been spotted near here during night, and they seem to be going in the direction of the Shinsengumi headquarters."

"We are not sure what they want, but we wanted you to know. Please watch out and be careful."

* * *

><p>All of the Shinsengumi captains had gathered in the meeting room, and Sannan-san took a sip from his tea that Chizuru prepared before listening to Aye.<p>

"What? Those two Oni's who kidnapped Chizuru?" Shinpachi-san exclaimed, making everyone glare at him.

"Yes, I am afraid so."

"But why now? Why are they here now?"

"Aye-san, who told you this?"

"I met Kimigiku-san and Osen-chan on my way here back fromâ€”" Aye stopped to make sure she wouldn't make any mistakes.
"Shimabara."

"In any case, we must watch out and look out just incase. They still might be after Chizuru."

* * *

><p>Aye sat in her room, listening to the bugs crying. Their sound was echoing through the night and she breathed in. When was the last time she could be so relaxed?<p>

But that thought was soon shattered when she spotted a figure slipping into the headquarters. Shifting into her Rasetsu form, she swiftly ran towards the figure, and found it to be a short boy.

His brown hair ruffled in the silent wind, and a slow smile spread on his face.

* * *

><p>YES! I KNOW! It was HORRIBLE! AWFUL! I don't even know!

I'm sorry... I know that it was really bad, but my head's a little out in space right now... And I really didn't want any of you guys to wait... :(Anyways, thanks for reading this chapter, and WOW! 21 reviews! 27 followers! 23 favorites! OMG! I thank all of you guys who gave this awesome happiness to me!

**Gianti-Faith: Oh god... When I first started reading your comment I thought you were talking to me... And I just sort of shut my laptop... So I asked my sister to read it for me and she just looked at me like "WTF is your problem Emily?" Anyways, thanks for the review, and I'm so glad to hear that you want more chapters of my story! Thank you!**

**ILoveKuramaTooMuch: Hello again! You are such an awesome person! I seriously get really teary when reading your reviews! To know that someone out there actually cares about my story... I'm gonna die! Thank you!**

That's it, and I'll probably be off studying next week, but please wait!

15. Notice 2

Hello everyone! I am really sorry, but I have exams coming up and I still have this annoying cold, so I'll be taking the month off.

I will be back on May 11th!

See you guys then!

16. Chapter 14

A/N: Hello everyone! I am very very very late today... I'm sorry... So I won't write too much about what I have to say!

Enjoy!

* * *

><p>Kaoru Nagumo was doing this for two purposes. One, he still hadn't given up on taking Chizuru. Two, he wanted revenge on the copper haired girl. Aye was in no mood to fight right now. All she wanted to do was lie down on her futon and make up for all the tiring days she spent around Kazama. But she couldn't afford to be lazy right now.<p>

Aye's now unsheathed sword was pointed at the boy, as he huffed.

"Just who I was looking for," he said, as he also unsheathed his katana. Not even a second later, the two swords clashed. Nagumo snarled as he was backing off due to the difference in strength. He jumped, and landed about a few steps away from Aye, and charged at her. But as Aye brought her sword down, she expected it to meet flesh, but instead hit another sword.

With a huff, Aye glared to see what had happened. It was definitely not Kaoru Nagumo who had blocked the attack.

"Kazama?" Aye questioned, but only got a smirk in response. Clicking his tongue, the short boy's brown hair started turning white. He turned towards Kazama, and they started backing each other up, trying to find an opening to kill.

Had they forgot about Aye?

"_I_ am your opponent!" She bellowed to Nagumo.

"I have business with him," Kazama said, his scarlet eyes glinting under the pale moonlight.

"Well I do too," replied Aye, her eyes filled with hatred.

Kazama and Nagumo continued fighting, until Aye caught Nagumo look at her. Soon enough, he jumped away from Kazama, and slammed his sword down. Barely being on time, Aye slipped right past the sharp blade.

* * *

><p>The fight continued on, and there was no progress whatsoever. It felt like it had been hours of dragging this on and on, and Aye was slowly starting to get tired. Although she tried not to shift into her Rasetsu form so often, she realized she had no choice right now.<p>

Feeling her body get lighter, she thrust her sword towards Nagumo. But with him being in his other form as well, he dodged her attack with ease. Every time she attacked, he dodged. That routine was repeated so many times, that Aye was starting to pant.

'I can't give up nowâ€¦'

Sweat trickled down Aye's body. She felt sticky, and the cold air around her was starting to make her cold.

Suddenly, a shock went down her spine, and she felt like something had hit her on the head. Using this as an opening, Nagumo went for Aye's chest, only for her to get herself back in the battle.

Katanas clashing, sweat dropping, everything was a mess.

"Aye-san!" Someone yelled, and she heard the person running towards her. But there was no time for her to look back, as the short boy slashed at her neck, leaving a small cut.

Kaoru Nagumo raised his sword with a smirk, and brought it down. Aye was too late to block the attack, but she desperately tried to dodge it. But the blow was stopped by a black
figure.

"Yamazaki-san?"

Only the boy's lips curled up as he concentrated on holding the other's sword. His arms shook violently, and his arm was about to give up. Aye slammed her katana onto Nagumo's and it sent it flying.

With no hesitation, Aye stabbed the boy.

* * *

><p>That is it! So do you guys think Kaoru Nagumo will die here, or do you think something else will happen in the next chapter? Well, you'll have to wait!

Nowadays, I don't know why, but my body hasn't been in the best condition. I've been so tired all the time. Seriously, I look like a panda every time I look in the mirror. Probably because I failed my test... But thankfully, I convinced my mom NOT to take my laptop... And I succeded! WOOHOO!

See you next week!

17. Final Notice (A Goodbye Message)

Hello everyone! As you know, I am the writer of Scarlet Moonlight, . So I know this is sad news to some of you, but I decided that I am

ready to start writing my book. You may not know, but I started Scarlet Moonlight as a practice. I have been doing some thinking, talking to my sister and family, and I came up with a conclusion. We think that I am ready to pursue a different kind of writing.

So I thank all of you who have been reading and keeping up with me from the beginning, and I'm also very sorry. But if you **did** like my writing, you could add me on Wattpad, and I will notify any of you if I start posting my story. So if any of you are interested in friending me, just send me a PM and I will answer away!

Thank you so much, and hope you all have a great day!

End
file.